

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. - 23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently Amended) Yarns or fibres made of polymer, wherein said polymer being selected from the group consisting of: polypropylene, poly(ethylene terephthalate), copolymers of ethylene terephthalate and of isophthalic 5-sulphonic acid, poly(butylene terephthalate), poly(propylene terephthalate), aliphatic polyamides and semiaromatic polyamides, said polymer comprising comprises an additive possessing flame-retardant properties composed of at least particles of a solid substrate on which a flame-retardant compound is adsorbed, wherein said substrate is in the form of porous granules or agglomerates before being added to the polymer and said granules or agglomerates exhibit a pore volume of at least 0.5 ml/g.

25. (Previously Presented) The yarns or fibres according to Claim 24, wherein the flame-retardant additive has a concentration by weight of between 0.5% and 25%, optionally between 1% and 10%, with respect to the weight of polymer.

26. (Previously Presented) The yarns or fibres according to Claim 24, wherein the solid substrate is an inorganic substrate being silica, alumina, zirconia, magnesium oxide, calcium oxide, cerium oxide, titanium oxide, calcium silicate, magnesium silicate or alkaline aluminosilicates.

27. (Previously Presented) The yarns or fibres according to Claim 24, wherein the flame-retardant additive in the yarns or fibres is composed of particles or aggregates, at least 80% by number of which exhibit a size of less than 1 µm.

28. - 29. (Canceled)

30. (Currently Amended) The yarns or fibres according to Claim 29 24, wherein the granules or agglomerates have a mean diameter (D50) of greater than or equal to 60 µm.

31. (Previously Presented) The yarns or fibres according to Claim 24, wherein the solid substrate is a silica.

32. (Currently Amended) The yarns or fibres according to Claim 31, wherein the silica is in the form of granules or agglomerates exhibiting at least one of: a specific surface of greater than 50 m²/g; and/or a pore volume of at least 0.5 ml/g, measured by the mercury porosity method.

33. (Previously Presented) The yarns or fibres according to Claim 32, wherein the flame-retardant compound is chosen from the group of the organophosphorus compounds, melamine and melamine derivatives.

34. (Previously Presented) The yarns or fibres according to Claim 33, wherein the organophosphorus compounds are polyphosphate esters, phosphoric esters or phosphonic esters.

35. - 36. (Canceled)

37. (Currently Amended) The yarns or fibres according to Claim 35 24, wherein the ~~thermoplastic is a~~ poly(ethylene terephthalate) comprising comprises at least 80% of ethylene terephthalate units or a copolymer of ethylene terephthalate and of 5-isosulphonic acid.

38. (Currently Amended) The yarns or fibres according to Claim 35 24, wherein the thermoplastic is polyamide 6, polyamide 6,6, polyamide 4, polyamide 11, polyamide 12, polyamides 4,6, polyamide 6,10, polyamide 6,12, polyamide 6,36, or polyamide 12,12.

39. (Previously Presented) The yarns or fibres according to Claim 24, further comprising an additive selected from the group consisting of pigments, dyes, heat stabilizers, light stabilizers, hydrophilic agents, hydrophobic agents and mattifying agents.

40. (Currently Amended) A process for the manufacture of the yarns or fibres as defined in claim 24, comprising ~~the steps of:~~:

- a) adding the additive possessing flame-retardant properties to the thermoplastic in the molten state, and
- b) spinning said mixture through a spinneret and in applying a spinning or winding-up rate of greater than 300 m/min, and, optionally, with a spinning rate is greater than 300 m/min.

41. (Currently Amended) The process according to Claim 39 40, wherein further comprising ~~the step~~

- c) of obtaining the flame-retardant additive by impregnation of granules or agglomerates of an inorganic substrate with the flame-retardant compound in a liquid state or in solution.

42. (Previously Presented) The process according to Claim 41, wherein the flame-retardant compound in the flame-retardant additive has a concentration of between .20% and 70% by weight, with respect to the weight of inorganic substrate, optionally of between 20% and 50%.

43. (New) A method of making flame-retardant yarns or fibers, the method comprising:

forming a thermoplastic from a polymer selected from the group consisting of: polypropylene, poly(ethylene terephthalate), copolymers of ethylene terephthalate and of isophthalic 5-sulphonic acid, poly(butylene terephthalate), poly(propylene terephthalate), aliphatic polyamides and semiaromatic polyamides;

providing a solid substrate in the form of porous granules or agglomerates exhibiting a pore volume of at least 0.5 ml/g;

adsorbing a flame-retardant compound onto the solid substrate thereby forming an additive possessing flame-retardant properties;

combining the thermoplastic and the additive;

breaking up the granules or agglomerates; and

dispersing the flame-retardant compound in the thermoplastic.